

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/824,096

Examiner

Dismery E. Mercedes

Applicant(s)

VENCA ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE filed 5/4/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 19-40 (renumbered 1-22).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Prosecution Application

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after allowance or after an Office action under *Ex Parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213 (Comm'r Pat. 1935). Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, prosecution in this application has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 5/4/2007 has been entered.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 19-40 (renumbered 1-22) are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Independent Claim 19 is allowable over the Prior Art of Record since the cited references taken alone or in combination do not teach or suggest: *a second resistor coupled between the input of the buffer amplifier and a reference potential, the second resistor being equal in value to the first resistor multiplied by a scaling factor; and a current mirror having an input for receiving an input current, a first current output coupled to the input of the buffer amplifier, the first current output being equal in value to the input current divided by the scale factor, and a second current output being coupled to the driving terminal.*

Independent Claim 22 is allowable over the Prior Art of Record since the cited references taken alone or in combination do not teach or suggest: *a second resistor coupled between the input of the buffer amplifier and a reference potential, the second resistor being equal in value to the first resistor multiplied by a scaling factor; a first current mirror having an input for receiving an input current, a first current output coupled to the input of the buffer amplifier, the first current output being equal in value to the input current divided by the scale*

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factor, and a second current output being coupled to the driving terminal; and a second current mirror having an input for receiving an input current, a first current output coupled to the input of the buffer amplifier, the first current output being equal in value to the input current divided by the scale factor, and a second current output being coupled to the driving terminal.

Independent Claim 26 is allowable over the Prior Art of Record since the cited references taken alone or in combination do not teach or suggest: *a second resistor coupled between the input of the first buffer amplifier and a reference potential, the second resistor being equal in value to the first resistor multiplied by a scaling factor; a first current mirror having an input for receiving a first input current, a first current output coupled to the input of the first buffer amplifier, the first current output being equal in value to the first input current divided by the scale factor, and a second current output being coupled to the first driving terminal; a second current mirror having an input for receiving a second input current, a first current output coupled to the input of the first buffer amplifier, the first current output being equal in value to the second input current divided by the scale factor, and a second current output being coupled to the driving terminal;; a second buffer amplifier having an input and an output coupled to the third resistor; a fourth resistor coupled between the input of the second buffer amplifier and the reference potential, the fourth resistor being equal in value to the third resistor multiplied by the scaling factor; a third current mirror having an input for receiving a third input current, a first current output coupled to the input of the second buffer amplifier, the first current output being equal in value to the third input current divided by the scale factor; and a fourth current mirror having an input for receiving a second input current, a first current output coupled to the input of the second buffer amplifier, the first current output being equal in value to the second input current divided by the scale factor, and a second current output being coupled to the second driving terminal.*

Independent Claim 36 is allowable over the Prior Art of Record since the cited references taken alone or in combination do not teach or suggest: *a second resistor coupled to the input of the first buffer amplifier and a first bias node, the second resistor being equal in value to the first resistor multiplied by a scaling*

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factor; a first current mirror having an input for receiving a first input current, a first current output coupled to the input of the first buffer amplifier, the first current output being equal in value to the first input current divided by the scale factor, and a second current output being coupled to the first driving terminal; a second current mirror having an input for receiving a second input current, a first current output coupled to the input of the first buffer amplifier, the first current output being equal in value to the second input current divided by the scale factor, and a second current output being coupled to the driving terminal; a second buffer amplifier having an input and an output coupled to the third resistor; a fourth resistor coupled between the input of the second buffer amplifier and a second bias node, the fourth resistor being equal in value to the third resistor multiplied by the scaling factor; a third current mirror having an input for receiving a third input current, a first current output coupled to the input of the second buffer amplifier, the first current output being equal in value to the third input current divided by the scale factor, and a second current output being coupled to the second driving terminal; a fourth current mirror having an input for receiving a second input current, a first current output coupled to the input of the second buffer amplifier, the first current output being equal in value to the second input current divided by the scale factor, and a second current output being coupled to the second driving terminal; and a source of DC bias voltage coupled between the first and second bias nodes.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: Klaassen et al. (US 6,671,113); Veenstra et al. (US 6,532,123) ; Contreras et al. (US 6,201,653) ;Bishop (US 6,744,578) ; Venca et al. (US 7,035,028).

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dismery E. Mercedes whose telephone number is 571-272-7558. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, from 9:00am - 4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrea Wellington can be reached on 571-272-4483. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


DM


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